

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 INT-08

DRC-01 NIC-01 /148 W

----- 066414

R 181500Z JUN 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB AO

SUBJECT: LABOR TROUBLES MOUNT

REF: A. LUANDA 383; B. LUANDA 420

1. SUMMARY. LABOR ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO FOLLOW PATTERN OF SHORT TOKEN STRIKES DESCRIBED REF A ALTHOUGH MILITANCY AND NUMBER OF STRIKES ARE ON INCREASE. END SUMMARY.

2. STRIKING BANK WORKERS (BEGAN JUNE 15) ARE FIRST TO USE PICKETS AND CAUSE SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC DISRUPTION, INCLUDING SEVERAL TRAFFIC TIE-UPS DOWNTOWN. MILITARY COUNTERED BY DECLARING AS ILLEGAL PICKETS WHO IMPEDE ENTRANCE NONSTRIKERS, AND TO WARN THAT ARMY MAY BE "OBLIGED" TO INTERVENE. BANK WORKERS REPORTEDLY WANT ACROSS-BOARD 2000 ESCUDOS (\$80)/MONTH INCREASE. ONE SOURCE SAYS THEY AND BANKS WOULD BOTH ACCEPT 1000/MONTH. STRIKE EXPECTED TO END AFTERNOON JUNE 18 OR 19. MILITARY MEDIATORS SO FAR APPEAR LESS INVOLVED IN THIS STRIKE THAN IN OTHERS IN RECENT PAST. BANKS ARE SQUABBLING AMONG THEMSELVES, PARTLY BECAUSE SOME DO NOT WANT INDUSTRY-WIDE, IDENTICAL CON-

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TRACTS.

3. MUNICIPAL BUS SERVICE STRUCK MORNING JUNE 18.

4. PORT SLOWDOWN CONTINUES AS STEVEDORES REFUSE TO WORK MORE THAN 8 HOURS DAY (REF B). THIS ACTION AFFECTS PORTUGUESE SHIPS MORE THAN FOREIGN FLAGS DUE INVOLVEMENT MARITIME CREWS.

5. GOVERNMENT'S ROLE: AUTHORITIES HAVE SPREAD WORD THAT A) SERVICE STATION ATTENDANTS STRIKE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED AND B) COFFEE LOADING WILL NOT BE JEOPARDIZED. EXCEPT IN THESE CASES AND PRESUMABLY OTHERS INVOLVING VITAL SERVICES, ATTITUDE APPEARS HANDS-OFF, PERHAPS ASCRIBABLE TO LAME DUCK QUALITY OF GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO JUNE 15 AND LEISURELY PACE OF INSTALLING SUBSTITUTES.

6. IN THAT REGARD, CHOICE OF AFONSO MENDES AS LABOR SECRETARY IS BECOMING ISSUE OF CONTENTION FOR SEVERAL UNIONS AND MAY SERVE AS PRETEXT FOR WIDER LABOR DISRUPTION IN DAYS AHEAD.

(SEE SEPTEL.

BRIGGS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, LABOR STRIKES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LUANDA00467
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740158-1163
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740636/aaaabtp.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. LUANDA 383; B. LUANDA 420
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: WorrelSW
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAY 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by WorrelSW>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR TROUBLES MOUNT
TAGS: ELAB, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005